

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

Success Stories from the Field

Hewlett Packard P.R. Co.

Puerto Rico Manufacturing Extension Inc

Quick Set Up Makes the Difference for Hewlett

Client Profile:

Hewlett Packard manufactures ink supplies, including inkjet print cartridges, color and monochrome printed circuit assemblies, memory boards for business and home computers, Laser Jets and network servers, modems and audio boards among other products. The company employs 500 people at its facility in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico.

Situation:

Hewlett Packard wanted to reduce the inventories of the different types of inkjet print cartridges. The changeover of the ink filling machine was taking too much time, resulting in long runs of the different types of cartridges and an increase in inventories. Hewlett Packard contracted the Puerto Rico Manufacturing Extension Inc. (PRiMEX), a NIST MEP network affiliate, for help.

Solution:

PRiMEX trained Hewlett Packard's technical and managerial employees in the "Lean Champion" program covering Lean techniques. After the group received training corresponding to the Quick Changeover module, they applied what they learned to the ink filler machine.

Results:

- * Reduced changeover time from 2.5 hours to 30 minutes.
- * Increased changeovers from 2 to 3 per month to 2 to 3 per week.
- * Reduced Every Part Every Interval (EPEI) from once a month to once a week.
- * Increased capacity to run an additional 50,000 cartridges per year.
- * Reduced inventory by 30 percent.

Testimonial:

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